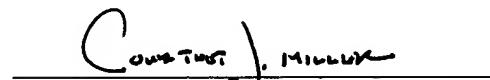


III. REMARKS

Claims 1-17 as originally filed have been cancelled without prejudice, and new claims 18-31 have been added to this application. The new claims are consistent with the specification and no new matter has been added to these claims. Favorable consideration of these new claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Courtney J. Miller
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 45,366
Calfee, Halter & Griswold LLP
1100 Fifth Third Center
21 East State Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215
(614) 621-7015
(614) 621-0010 (fax)